

(1) The United States is the world's largest market for pharmaceuticals, yet consumers still pay the world's highest prices.

(2) In 2000, Congress took action to legalize the importation of prescription drugs from other countries by United States wholesalers and pharmacists, and before such a program can go into effect, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) must certify that the program would have no adverse impact on safety and that it would reduce costs for American consumers.

(3) Since 2000, no Secretary of HHS has made the certification required to permit the implementation of a program for importation of prescription drugs.

(4) In July 2006, the Senate approved by a vote of 68-32 an amendment to the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2007, that prohibits Customs and Border Protection from preventing individuals not in the business of importing prescription drugs from carrying them across the border with Canada.

(5) In July 2007, the Senate adopted language similar to the 2007 amendment in the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2008.

(6) In October 2007, the Senate adopted language in the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008, that prohibits anti-reimportation activities within HHS.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the leadership of the Senate should bring to the floor for full debate in 2008 comprehensive legislation that legalizes the importation of prescription drugs from highly industrialized countries with safe pharmaceutical infrastructures and creates a regulatory pathway to ensure that such drugs are safe;

(2) such legislation should be given an up or down vote on the floor of the Senate; and

(3) previous Senate approval of 3 amendments in support of prescription drug importation shows the Senate's strong support for passage of comprehensive importation legislation.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.R. 3221

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at 2:15 p.m., Tuesday, April 1, the Senate proceed to the motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on the motion to proceed to H.R. 3221; that the motion to reconsider be agreed to; further, that the time until 2:30 p.m. be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders with the majority leader controlling the final 7½ minutes; that at 2:30 p.m., without further intervening action or debate, the Senate proceed to vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to H.R. 3221.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. 1974

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order of December 19, 2007, with respect to S. 1974, be vitiated and that S. 1974 remain at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MAKING MAJORITY PARTY APPOINTMENTS FOR THE 110TH CONGRESS

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I send a resolution to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 492) amending majority party membership on the Select Committee on Ethics for the remainder of the 110th Congress.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, and that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table without intervening action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 492) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 492

Resolved, That Senate Resolution 27 (110th Congress) is amended, effective January 1, 2008, by striking all from "ETHICS:" through "72a-1f" and inserting "ETHICS: Mrs. Boxer (Chairman), Mr. Pryor, and Mr. Salazar".

WORLD WATER DAY

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 478, and the Senate then proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 478) supporting the goals and ideals of "World Water Day."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and preamble be agreed to en bloc, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 478) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 478

Whereas the United Nations General Assembly, via resolution, has designated March 22 of each year as World Water Day;

Whereas a person needs 4 to 5 liters of water per day to survive;

Whereas a person can live weeks without food, but only days without water;

Whereas every 15 seconds a child dies from a water-borne disease;

Whereas, for children under age 5, water-borne diseases are the leading cause of death;

Whereas millions of women and children spend several hours a day collecting water from distant, often polluted sources;

Whereas every dollar spent on water and sanitation saves on average \$9 in costs averted and productivity gained;

Whereas, at any given time, ½ of the world's hospital beds are occupied by patients suffering from a water-borne disease;

Whereas 88 percent of all diseases are caused by unsafe drinking water, inadequate sanitation, and poor hygiene;

Whereas 1,100,000,000 (1 in 6) people lack access to an improved water supply;

Whereas 2,600,000,000 people in the world lack access to improved sanitation;

Whereas the global celebration of World Water Day is an initiative that grew out of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro;

Whereas the participants in the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, including the United States, agreed to the Plan of Implementation which included an agreement to work to reduce by ½ from the baseline year 1990 "the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water", "and the proportion of people without access to basic sanitation" by 2015; and

Whereas Congress passed and the President signed into law the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-121), which was intended to "elevate the role of water and sanitation policy in the development of U.S. foreign policy and improve the effectiveness of U.S. official programs": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of "World Water Day";

(2) urges an increased effort and the investment of greater resources by the Department of State, the United States Agency for International Development, and all relevant Federal departments and agencies toward providing sustainable and equitable access to safe drinking water and sanitation for the poor and the very poor; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe the week with appropriate activities that promote awareness of the importance of access to clean water.

NATIONAL CEREBRAL PALSY AWARENESS DAY

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 484 and that the Senate now proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 484) designating March 25, 2008, as "National Cerebral Palsy Day."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 484) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 484

Whereas cerebral palsy is any number of neurological disorders that appear in infancy or early childhood and permanently affect